

STAFF REPORT

Date: April 12, 2023

To: Mayor and City Council

Thru: Doug Thornley, City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Acceptance of Donation from the High Fives Foundation for the Military to the Mountain 2023 partnership in the amount of \$18,000.

From: April Wolfe, Therapeutic Rec Specialist

Department: Parks and Recreation

Summary:

The City of Reno and the High Fives Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization serving disabled veterans and first responders, partner to host Military to the Mountain, a ten-week adaptive skiing and snowboarding program. As part of this partnership, the city assists in training Reno-based veterans and first responders so they are physically ready for a week of adaptive skiing/snowboarding. The High Fives Foundation has donated \$18,000 to Parks and Recreation for the Military to the Mountain 2023 program partnership. Staff recommends Council accept the \$18,000 donation.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

Fiscal Sustainability

Previous Council Action:

April 14, 2021 - Council accepted a donation of \$21,000

March 25, 2020 – Council accepted a donation of \$25,000.

January 23, 2019 – Council accepted a donation of \$25,000.

February 14, 2018 – Council accepted a donation of \$25,000.

June 7, 2017 – Council accepted a donation of \$8,000.

Background:

The Military to the Mountain program redefines the traditional military boot camp to train for nine weeks in preparation for one week of skiing and snowboarding at Palisades Tahoe. The goal of the program is to offer wounded veterans and first responders an opportunity to overcome

mental and physical barriers. Experiencing the mountains for the first time post-injury redefines their limits and ignites new passion for opportunities and challenges they no longer thought were possible.

Discussion:

Growing on the success of the City of Reno's Fit but not Forgotten veteran fitness program, the City of Reno, in partnership with the High Fives Foundation, partner together to provide an expanded 10-week fitness program preparing a group of Fit but not Forgotten graduates for a week of adaptive skiing and snowboarding at Palisades Tahoe through the Military to the Mountain Program. This intense, sport-specific training requires qualified Veterans and first responders to participate in two one-hour individual workouts, and one one-hour group workout per week for the duration of the program.

As part of this partnership, the city assists in training veterans/first responders so they are physically ready for a week of adaptive skiing/snowboarding. During the week on the mountain, this program brings together a similar group of veterans/first responders training with the Adaptive Training Foundation in Dallas, Texas. All adaptive skiing/snowboarding instruction is conducted by certified instructors. At the conclusion of the week, a graduation for all participating veterans/first responders marks their hard work and success. Due to the success of the City of Reno's Military to the Mountains program partnership, the High Fives Foundation has donated \$18,000 toward the program.

Financial Implications:

The funds will be restricted for the purpose in which they were donated.

Legal Implications:

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada Law. NRS 268.008(6) provides that the city may "Receive bequests, devises, gifts and donations of all kinds of property wherever situated in fee simple, in trust or otherwise, for charitable or other purposes and do anything necessary to carry out the purposes of such bequests, devises, gifts and donations with full power to manage, sell, lease or otherwise dispose of such property in accordance with the terms of such bequest, devise, gift or donation."

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council accept the donation of \$18,000 from the High Fives Foundation for the Military to the Mountain 2023 partnership.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve staff recommendation.

Attachments:

Email confirmation of donation